United Nations E/CN.9/2018/1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
15 January 2018

Original: English

Commission on Population and Development
Fifty-first session
9–13 April 2018
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda

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Annotations

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council stipulates that the Commission shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chair, one or more Vice-Chairs and such other officers as may be required.

In accordance with Council decision 2005/213, the Commission, immediately following the closure of its fiftieth session, held the first meeting of its fifty-first session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chair and other officers of the Commission. The Commission elected Ion Jinga (Romania) as Chair of the fifty-first session, representing the Eastern European States, and Nokulunga Zandile Bhengu (South Africa) as Vice-Chair, representing the African States. At the second meeting of its fifty-first session, to be held on 9 April 2018, the Commission will elect Vice-

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Chairs nominated by the groups of Asia-Pacific States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States.

The membership of the Commission at its fifty-first session is provided in the annex to the present document.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council requires that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

On the recommendation of the Commission at its fiftieth session, the Council, in its decision 2017/258 (see A/72/3, chap. X, sect. I.6), approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-first session of the Commission.

At its thirtieth session, the Commission decided to authorize its Bureau to hold intersessional meetings in preparation for its sessions on a yearly basis (see E/1997/25, para. 52). At its thirty-ninth session, in its resolution 2006/1 (see E/2006/25, chap. I.B), the Commission requested its Bureau to meet as frequently as necessary in preparation for its annual sessions.

Documentation

Provisional agenda (E/CN.9/2018/1)

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of work of the session (E/CN.9/2018/L.1)

3. General debate

(a) Actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the global, regional and national levels

(b) Sustainable cities, human mobility and international migration

In its resolution 49/128, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development and decided that the Commission, as a functional commission assisting the Economic and Social Council, would monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Conference at the national, regional and international levels and advise the Council thereon.

At its twenty-first special session, the General Assembly, in its resolution S-21/2, adopted the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 65/234, extended the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation beyond 2014.

On the basis of the recommendation made by the Commission at its forty-ninth session, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2016/25 on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission. In the resolution, the Council reaffirmed the primary mandate of the Commission to monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and to advise the Council thereon; also reaffirmed the central role of the Commission in coordinating the review and assessment of the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, including addressing gaps and challenges to implementation; and affirmed that the Commission would contribute to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development within its existing mandate, and that the contribution of the Commission should reflect the integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as their interlinkages.

In the terms of reference of the Commission (see E/1995/27, annex I, sect. I.A), which were endorsed by the Council in its resolution 1995/55, the Commission was called upon to adopt a topic-oriented and prioritized multi-year programme. That work programme would, inter alia, provide a framework for assessing the progress achieved in the implementation of the Programme of Action. In the report on its twenty-eighth session, of which the Council took note in its decision 1995/236, the Commission called for the preparation of annual reports on a selected topic of the Programme of Action (see E/1995/27, annex I, sect. III).

On the basis of the recommendation made by the Commission at its forty-ninth session, the Council, in its resolution 2016/25, decided that the Commission would continue its current practice of selecting one special theme for each annual session on the basis of progress, gaps, recurrent challenges and evolving issues relevant to population and development based on the Programme of Action and the key actions to accelerate its further implementation, while also taking into account the 2030 Agenda, with a view to fully implementing all of its mandated tasks and contributing to the work of the Council, including by building synergies and, in the context of its working methods, as appropriate, taking into account the annual thematic focus of the Council and of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 67/290 and 68/1, as part of a multi-year work programme. The Council also decided to include, under the item on the general debate, two sub items, one focusing on actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action at the global, regional and national levels and one focusing on the special theme of the Commission.

In its decision 2017/260 (see E/2017/25, chap. I.A), the Council decided that, starting with its fifty-third session, in 2020, the Commission would adopt a four-year cycle for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda, as part of a multi-year work programme aligned with the main theme of the Council and with the thematic focus of the high-level political forum meeting under the auspices of the Council.

In its decision 2017/101 (see E/2017/25, chap. I.C), the Commission decided that the theme for its fifty-first session, in 2018, would be "Sustainable cities, human mobility and international migration".

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on sustainable cities, human mobility and international migration (E/CN.9/2018/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes, focusing on sustainable cities, human mobility and international migration (E/CN.9/2018/3)

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/2018/4)

4. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population

At its twenty-eighth session, the Commission suggested that the work programme in the field of population should continue, inter alia, to give high priority to the monitoring of population trends and policies and include the biennial preparation of estimates and projections of global, national, urban, rural and city populations; the conduct of studies on population and related development policies; the preparation of studies on interactions of population change with other development processes; the

conduct of analyses of mortality; contribution to and coordination of in-depth studies on fertility, nuptiality and reproductive rights and health, including family planning; the conduct of studies to improve the understanding of the causes and consequences of internal migration and international migration; increasing public awareness of and information exchange on population and development issues; making the necessary arrangements for coordinating the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action; and the provision of technical cooperation support to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, and, on a temporary basis, to countries with economies in transition in the light of the economic and social problems that those countries faced at that time (see E/1995/27, annex II). The Commission reaffirmed the content of the work programme at its twenty-ninth session (Commission resolution 1996/1; see E/1996/25, chap. I.C).

At its thirtieth session, the Commission stressed the importance of continuing the basic work of the Population Division of the Secretariat on the crucial underpinnings of population estimates and projections; basic population trends and issues, including fertility, mortality, migration and patterns of rural and urban population change; the evolution of population policies; and understanding of the links between population and development (Commission resolution 1997/3; see E/1997/25, chap. I.C).

At its thirty-seventh session, the Commission reaffirmed the importance of the work of the Division in providing the United Nations system and the international community with comprehensive and scientifically sound inputs for the analysis of progress made in achieving the goals and objectives on population and development contained in the outcomes of major United Nations summits and conferences, especially the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the key actions for its further implementation and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (Commission resolution 2004/1; see E/2004/25, chap. I.B). At the same session, the Commission further emphasized that the Division should continue its basic work on population estimates and projections; patterns of rural and urban population change; the analysis of international migration; the implications of the changing age structure of the population for development; the increasing diversity of fertility and mortality levels and trends; the interrelations among population, resources, the environment and development; and the evolution of population policies, applying a gender perspective in this regard (Commission resolution 2004/1).

At its forty-ninth session, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to continue his substantive work on population and development, including on the interactions between population dynamics, inequalities and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, to pursue further improvements in the accessibility and timeliness of disaggregated population data for use by Member States, the United Nations system, civil society and academia, and, in collaboration with the United Nations system and relevant organizations outside the United Nations, civil society and academia, to continue to assess and report on progress towards the full implementation of the Programme of Action, the key actions for its further implementation, and the 2030 Agenda (Commission resolution 2016/1; see E/2016/25, chap. I.C).

In resolution 2016/25, the Council reaffirmed the complementary roles of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations Population Fund, within their existing mandates, in supporting the efficient work of the Commission.

The Commission has before it the report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2017. Members of the Commission are invited to review the report and provide comments thereon.

The documentation for this item does not include the proposed strategic framework of the Population Division for the biennium 2020–2021. The strategic framework is subject to the new annual programme budget approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 72/266, including a new results framework, a draft of which was proposed in annex III to the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations: improving and streamlining the programme planning and budgeting process" (A/72/492/Add.1). It is anticipated that the format of the new strategic framework will be finalized in 2018.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends (E/CN.9/2018/5)

Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2017: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/2018/6)

5. Provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission has before it the draft provisional agenda for its fifty-second session, together with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Commission to consider those documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Commission and their urgency and relevance in the light of the current situation.

The Commission is invited to consider Council resolutions 1979/41, 1981/83, 1982/50 and 1983/163, on the control and limitation of documentation, on exercising restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General for new documentation, on integrating and consolidating documents to rationalize documentation and avoid duplication, and on streamlining agendas and programmes of work.

On the basis of the recommendation made by the Commission at its forty-ninth session, the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2016/25, decided to include, under the item on the general debate, two sub-items, one focusing on actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action at the global, regional and national levels and one focusing on the special theme of the Commission. The proposed provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Commission reflects this change.

The Commission decided at its fiftieth session in 2017 that the theme of its fifty-second session, in 2019, would be "Review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (Commission decision 2017/101; see E/2017/25, chap. I.B).

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Commission (E/CN.9/2018/L.2)

6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-first session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission shall submit a report to the Council on the work of each session.

Annex

Membership of the Commission on Population and Development at its fifty-first session (2018)

(47 members; four-year term)

	Term expires at close of session in the year
Argentina	2018
Belarus	2019
Belgium	2021
Benin	2018
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2019
Brazil	2021
Burundi	2019
Cameroon	2021
Canada	2020
Chile	2020
China	2018
Cuba	2021
Denmark	2021
Dominican Republic	2018
Finland	2020
France	2021
Germany	2018
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2019
Israel	2019
Jamaica	2019
Japan	2021
Liberia	2018
Madagascar	2021
Malaysia	2018
Mali	2021
Mexico	2021
Mongolia	2018
Morocco	2020
Pakistan	2018
Peru	2018
Philippines	2019

	Term expires at close of session in the year
Qatar	2020
Republic of Moldova	2020
Romania	2021
Russian Federation	2018
Serbia	2018
Sierra Leone	2019
South Africa	2018
Sudan	2020
Turkmenistan	2020
Uganda	2020
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2018
United States of America	2018
Zambia	2018

Note: At the 18th meeting of its 2017 session, on 19 April 2017, the Economic and Social Council elected the following 11 Member States to the Commission on Population and Development for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-second session of the Commission, in 2018, and expiring at the close of its fifty-fifth session, in 2022: Argentina, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Haiti, Mauritania, Russian Federation, United States of America and Vanuatu. The Council postponed the election of two members from African States, one member from Asia-Pacific States and two members from Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-second session of the Commission, in 2018, and expiring at the close of its fifty-fifth session, in 2022. The Council elected Canada to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Commission for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of its fifty-third session, in 2020. The Council also elected Denmark to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Commission for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of its fifty-fourth session, in 2021. The Council further postponed the election of two members from Asia-Pacific States and one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, in 2021 (see decision 2017/201 B).

At its 7th meeting on 5 December 2017, the Economic and Social Council elected Germany and the Netherlands to fill outstanding vacancies on the Commission, both for a term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-second session of the Commission in 2018 and expiring at the close of the fifty-fifth session in 2022. The Council further postponed the election of two members from African States and one member from Asia-Pacific States for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-second session in 2018 and expiring at the close of the fifty-fifth session, in 2022, and two members from the Asia-Pacific States and one member from the Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-fourth session in 2021.